02/22/2006 18:08 FAX **2**001/014 P24077.P15 Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8 I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (571) 273-8300 on February 22, 2006. well Bosin RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER Signature William S. Boshnick, Reg. No. 44,550 Typed or printed name of person signing Certificate **GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. Intellectual Property Causes** 1950 Roland Clarke Place Reston, VA 20191 (703) 716-1191

Attorney Docket No. P24077

In re application of : Shinnosuke NAKAHARA et al.

Mail Stop Amendment Group Art Unit: 3738

Application No.

: 10/642,684

Examiner

Bruce SNOW

Filed

: August 19, 2003

For

: INTERVERTEBRAL CAGE

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment and Response under 37 C.F.R. 1.111 in the above-captioned application. Small Entity Status of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a previously filed statement.

A Request for Extension of Time.

No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

Claims After Amendment	No. Claims Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Small Entity		Other Than A Small Entity	
			Rate	Fee	Rate	Fee
Total Claims:	•	0	x25=	\$	x 50=	\$
Indep. Claims:	**	0	x100=	\$	x200=	\$
Multiple Dependent Claims Presented			+180=	\$	+360=	\$
Extension Fees for Month(s)				\$		\$
* If less than 20, write 20 ** If less than 3, write 3			Total:	\$	Total:	\$

Please charge my Deposit Acco	ount No. 19-0089 in the amount of \$
A check in the amount of \$	to cover the filing/extension fee is included.

A check in the amount of \$_ The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.

Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, including any required extension of time fees in any concurrent or future reply requiring a petition for extension of time for its timely submission (37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)(3)). Will Bosher

William S. Boshnick

Reg. No. 44,550

Bruce H. Bernstein

Reg. No. 29,027

P24077.A09

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

FEB 2 2 2006

Applicants : Shinnosuke NAKAHARA et al.

Group Art Unit: 3738

Appln. No. : 10/642,684

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Willi Boshic

Signature

William S. Boshnick Reg. No. 44,550

Typed or printed name of person signing Certificate

AMENDMENT & RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated November 22, 2005, setting a shortened three-month statutory period for response to expire on February 22, 2006, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections in view of the herein-contained remarks.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this document.

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Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 4 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this document.